

Broken Treasure

We have Anne Blight to thank for this one.
(Apologies for the American spelling)

If you are feeling a little broken through circumstance or age or infirmity, it might help to remember that you still colour the world around you. And maybe even more so being a little broken!

God has a market for cracked pots!

'We have this treasure in clay jars'



In *1 Cor 4* Paul describes how, despite being afflicted, broken, persecuted, we are not forsaken – and just as Jesus came through the brokenness of the cross into resurrected life, we too contain within us the treasure of God's love to surpass all trials. Just as the love of God was liberated through the cross and made free for the whole world, so too the love of God within us can overflow through the cracks that the 'wear and tear' of life imposes on us and bring colour to a broken world.

The ancient Japanese philosophy of '*wabi-sabi*' – seeing the beauty in the flawed or imperfect - led in the 15th century to the art of Kintsugi which means 'to join with gold'. Very old, well-used, even broken utensils are



highly valued – so much so that the broken pieces may be glued together again with gold lacquer to highlight the repair. The nearest western equivalent might be 'waste not want not' or 'make do and mend', though this doesn't quite match up to the Kintsugi art of embracing imperfection.

So if you're feeling a bit broken, know that God embraces your brokenness and values the colour you spill into the world.